

# Hawaii Navy News



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## IN BRIEF

### JEMS to sponsor Hawaii State Job Fair

The Joint Employment Management System (JEMS) is sponsoring its second semi-annual Hawaii State Department of Education (DOE) Jobs and Information Fair Nov. 29 from 2-4 p.m. at the Banyans Club on Pearl Harbor.

DOE representatives will be available to explain the qualifications and procedures needed to apply for various positions within the DOE. Positions that are currently available are:

- Elementary teachers
- Secondary teachers
- Math & Science teachers
- Industrial Arts teachers
- Educational assistants
- School librarians
- A+ (After School Care) staff
- Cafeteria workers
- School counselors
- Office staff
- School security attendants

Information on teaching degrees and certification programs will also be provided by college representatives. This job fair is open to all military family members, active duty personnel, DOD civilians, retirees, and reservists.

For more information, call the JEMS Office at 473-0190 or the Family Service Center at 473-4222 ext. 1.

### Operation Aloha

The 11th annual Operation Aloha canned food drive will be held from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Nov. 18 and 19 at Naval Station Commissary and Schofield Barracks Commissary.

NCTAMS PAC is sponsoring "Operation Aloha", a Thanksgiving project benefiting approximately 600 North Shore area residents. In addition to providing Thanksgiving dinner, bags of canned goods are distributed to help our neighbors throughout the holiday season. For more information, call 653-5534.



J03 Brenda M. Diggs photo

JOC Gerard Sekerak (right), editor of Hawaii Navy News, talks one on one with Rear Adm. Robert T. Conway (left), Commander Navy Region Hawaii and Commander Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, about a variety of issues ranging from quality of life to anti-terrorist force protection.

By JOC Gerard Sekerak

HAWAII NAVY NEWS EDITOR

Q. This must be a unique assignment where you wear two "hats." What are your top priorities as Commander, Navy Region (COMNAVREG) Hawaii and Commander, Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific (MIDPAC)?

A. Under the region side, I've broken it down to three, in no priority order: Ford Island development, Ohana community relations and Kaho'olawe. On the MIDPAC side it's operational readiness, quality of service and anti-terrorism force protection.

What I'm trying to do is take both hats and their accompanying priorities, and treat them as one, because the three NAVREG priorities are just as applicable to MIDPAC as the MIDPAC priorities are to NAVREG.

Q. Quality of Life (QoL) is a top priority for all Navy leadership. What are your goals in this area?

A. The Quality of Life (QoL) issue is pretty complex, but all of leadership is committed to the over-arching issue - Quality of Service (QoS). We really believe that what we're doing to improve the Quality of Service will have a direct impact on the retention of our Sailors.

But when we focus solely on Quality of Life, we're going to put more emphasis on the newest angle - force protection. It ranges from what we're doing to prepare our Sailors for advancement to how to properly compensate them and house them. All of the leadership, both enlisted and officer, is very concerned with improving the quality of life for Sailors and their families.

We're probably way ahead of every-

## Commander, Navy Region Hawaii ONE on ONE

### Rear Admiral Robert T. Conway

one else in terms of getting our Sailors off the ships and into BQ rooms when the ships are in port. That's one big quality of life improvement our Sailors really like. We feel the payback for that, when we have a way to measure it, will end up in higher reenlistment rates.

On the family side, you'll notice that the housing is getting better, too. We've still got a long way to go, but it's getting better. The problem is, the process is not quick enough for everybody, and that gets us into expectations. I don't want anybody to think that the quality of life is going to change overnight - the improvements are governed by a lot of different things, such as funding and other resources, so they'll take time.

It's the same thing with the Navy Exchange and Commissary privileges that we enjoy here on the island - they're all part of the quality of life. What are we doing to increase that? We're building a brand-new Commissary and Navy Exchange. Every time we put up a mini-mart, an ATM or a new parking lot, we improve our quality of life.

The issue is quality of life is not just what anybody thinks from the surface and glosses over. It's not just the leadership and the chain of command properly preparing you for advancement. It's taking care of your family, so that when you are away they have a safe place to live, work and play.

It's also the added benefits that you have, such as medical care. Is that going to get better? The answer is yes. Why? Because the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff made it his num-

ber one priority this year. And we're already seeing some improvements in medical care which, inherently is much better here, arguably, than it is in other places.

The quality of life issue is extremely complex - it almost encompasses everything we do in our daily lives. So I think it comes down to what the enlisted and officer leadership is doing to improve our daily lives as we work in the Navy.

Q. The CNO recently talked about the importance of Quality of Service. What are your goals for the Region and MIDPAC in this area?

A. Quality of Service is Quality of Life and Quality of Work, so since we already addressed QoL, let's focus on quality of work. Quality of work is me touring this base, and everything that belongs to the region and MIDPAC, to make sure that we're providing an opportunity for our Sailors to work in an environment that is conducive to working.

We have a lot of old buildings in need of repair and we are repairing them, slowly but surely, while maintaining the history of the base. Moreso, the quality of work gets down to what are we doing in leadership to improve the quality of the work environment? Are we giving you the tools to get your job done? Are we getting you the parts? Are we giving you the resources? That's the quality of work aspect. And when you combine quali-

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## Pearl Harbor community celebrates Veterans day

By J02 Cori Rhea

COMSUBPAC PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The submarine community conducted a Veterans Day ceremony, held at the Parche Submarine Memorial in Pearl Harbor, signifying 100 years of dedicated service vital to protecting our nation's interest.

The ceremony recognized the success, courageousness and sacrifice of the submarine force.

The Radford High School Naval Junior Officer Training Corps began the ceremony by posting the 50 state flags while the Commander in Chief, Pacific Fleet band played the national anthem and the color guard posted the colors.

Paul Ferguson, President of the Hawaii Chapter, U.S. Submarine Veterans of World War II, welcomed all those attending by saying, "Veterans Day is a national observance dedicated to honoring military veterans past and present, the living as well as the dead. In the four years that I have presided over the Memorial Day ceremony, I've been asked why we hold such a solemn ceremony on a day of celebration," said Ferguson.

"Memorial Day is said to be a day to decorate the graves of the fallen. Veterans Day is a day for parade and celebration of the living. While that may be true, we submarine vets gather before this wall of honor specifically to remember and pay homage to the sacrifices of the men of what many have called the greatest generation," said Ferguson.

Stan Nichols, Deputy State Commander, U.S. Submarine Veterans of World War II, assisted with the roll call by tolling a bell for each submarine lost in World War II. As he tolled the bell, a floral lei was placed around the plaque of that particular submarine.

Rear Adm. Albert Konetzni, Commander Submarine Force Pacific Fleet, spoke next, offering words of appreciation. "Veterans Day is not only a celebration,

▼ See SUBMARINE, A-7



PH2 Chad McNeeley photo

Naval Station Honor Guard performs a 21-gun salute aboard the Battleship Missouri Memorial during a Veterans Day ceremony Nov. 11. There were numerous ceremonies around Pearl Harbor and throughout Oahu to honor fallen servicemembers.

## Honolulu Harbor Fest



J03 Brenda M. Diggs photo

IC2(SW) Vernon Bailey (right), of USS Hopper (DDG 70), describes the MK 36/MOD 12 Decoy Chaff Launching System to a group of tourists at Aloha Tower Marketplace on Veterans Day Nov. 11. Hopper offered tours throughout the day in support of the first Honolulu Harbor Festival.

## Tripler Flu shots begin for high-risk patients

By Margaret Tippy

TRIPLER ARMY MEDICAL CENTER  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE

Tripler Army Medical Center's Allergy & Immunization Clinic staff began administering flu shots to TRICARE Prime and Tripler Silver high-risk patients this week.

The shots will be given in phases due to the national delay in flu vaccine availability. The clinic is located on the fourth floor, mountain-side.

Immunization hours are Tuesdays, 1 - 3 p.m., Wednesdays, 7:30 - 11 a.m., and Fridays, 9 - 11 a.m.

Patients who meet the following criteria should call their Primary Care Manager (PCM) for more information, said Capt. Rebekah J. Sarsfield, head nurse of the Allergy & Immunization Clinic. The vaccine will only be given to patients who have prescriptions from their PCMs.

"TRICARE Prime and Tripler Silver patients who

are at high risk, have a serious medical condition such as - but not limited to - severe heart, lung (including asthma) or kidney disorders; immune system disorders (including medications that suppress the immune system); certain blood disorders; and metabolic disease such as diabetes," said Col. (Dr.) Glenn Wasserman, chief of Tripler's Department of Preventive Medicine.

"As more vaccine becomes available, we will include other patients in future phases," said Navy Capt. (Dr.) Richard R. Jeffries, Tripler's deputy commander for Clinical Services. "We must limit the initial vaccinations to those individuals at highest risk. Most of these patients are elderly with significant medical problems."

Patients who meet the criteria but cannot come to the Immunization Clinic during immunization hours should contact their PCMs to arrange with the Allergy

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